

AGR NEWSLETTER

ARIZONA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Volume 1

MAY 2007

Edition 3

"And they who for their country die shall fill an honored grave, for glory lights the soldier's tomb, and beauty weeps the brave." -Joseph Drake

Retirements

CW5 Randall Acree
SGM Rudolph Tameron
SGM Danny O'Connor
SGM Frank Sandell
MSG Daniel Klein
SFC Phillip Hunter

New Hires

SGT MaryMargaret Smith
F CO. 1-168th ATS
SGT Randolph Stroud-
JFHQ
SSG Keith Wyman-
860th MP CO
SSG Barton Sickler-
Camp Navajo
SSG Leo Torres-
DET 1 860th MP CO
SFC Joel Johnson-
JFHQ



A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

May 28th, while serving as another day off from our duty assignments, is a day that should be considered for more than barbecues and spring cleaning. Memorial Day, previously known as Decoration Day, was proclaimed on May 5, 1868 as a day to remember our fallen in service. During that same month the first flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery to begin our nation's tradition of remembrance. Sparked by *In Flanders Fields*, Moina Michael started the long-lived selling and wearing of red poppies. As a result, the VFW Buddy Poppy program was founded and has flourished throughout the years to raise money for more than 75 years for veterans' welfare and the well being of their families. During this Memorial Day, I encourage you all to remember not only those who have fallen from the Arizona Army National Guard, but all of those who have passed away in honor of protecting the American way of life. As a Soldier, we carry heavy burdens, encounter unlimited obstacles, face fear and adversity. But above all, we stand in honor, together as a band of Soldiers, which we should never cease to remember.

Have plans this Memorial Day?



Visit the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona. They have a great turnout at their annual Memorial Day celebration complete with speeches, presentation of wreaths, releasing of the doves, and more. Talk with the veterans of prior wars and stand proud when your service song is played. The event starts at 0800 hours and lasts approximately two hours

**23029 North Cave Creek Road
Phoenix, AZ 85024
Phone: (480) 513-3600**

In Flanders Fields

John McCrae, 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

*Inspired by this poem, Moina Michael
replied:*

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

Did you know?

If you request leave for Friday and Monday and are not present for duty during the weekend, all days from Friday-Monday are considered chargeable per AR 600-8-10.

ATTENTION BATTALION & BRIGADE AO'S

MSG Craig Murray will be representing our region's ARNG AGR force, to include Arizona, at an NGB planning conference referred to as the AMAC (AGR Manager's Advisory Committee) on 21 May 2007. If you or your staff have issues relevant to the AGR workforce that you would like to get on the table at the AMAC please forward them to MSG Murray at craig.murray@us.army.mil or call at his extension listed below. PLEASE DO NOT send individual replies-CHANNEL THEM THROUGH YOUR AO. MSG Murray will relay any questions, requests or issues that the AGR office can't resolve locally to

IPERMS NOTE:

As the promotion boards come to an end there is a growing problem with supporting documentation not being pushed through the IPERMS system. To prepare yourself for next years' boards and your retirement, ensure that all of your documents have been scanned into your IPERMS record so you can successfully board or retire.

OUR STAFF

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602-629-4815

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AGR Administrator, Army
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AGR Announcements:
<http://www.azguard.gov/hro/agr.htm>

FYI- Notice a zip code change on your LES? The AGR section is currently auditing all zip codes for AGR's. As an AGR Soldier you are entitled to receive BAH-I at your permanent duty station according to your orders, not your home of record.

Have a website, link, or question that you think should be featured in next month's AGR Newsletter? Send your suggestions to: tiffany.fisher@us.army.mil.